



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
COMMISSION ON HISPANIC AFFAIRS

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Updated August 22, 2001

**WASHINGTON STATE  
DEMOGRAPHIC HIGHLIGHTS**

**Population Figures:**

- 1 out of every 5 new Washington State residents in the 1990's was of Latino origin. Washington State gained an additional 226,939 Latinos between 1990-2000. The total population of the state increased by 1,027,429. (Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census)
- In Washington State the difference between 1990 and 2000 was a 105.8% increase in the Latino population compared to the total state population increase of 21.1%. (Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census & 1990 Census)
- In 1990 Latinos made up 4.4% of the total population of Washington State. (Source: US Census Bureau, 1990 Census)
- In 2000 Latinos made up 7.5% of the total population of Washington State. (Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census)
- 54.1% (or 238,926) of Washington State Latinos lived in Western Washington in 2000. 45.9% (or 202,583) of Washington State Latinos lived in Eastern Washington in 2000.
- Latinos of Mexican heritage were 5.6% of the total state population. Latinos of Puerto Rican heritage were 0.3%, Latinos of Cuban heritage were 0.1%, and Latinos of other Hispanic or Latino heritage were 1.5% of the total state population. (Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census)
- In 2000, 12.5% (35.3 million people) of the total population of the United States was Latino. This was an increase of 57.9 percent from 1990. (Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census & 1990 Census)

**Housing and Homeownership**

- Nationally, 67.6% of the population is homeowners. 74% of non-Hispanic whites are homeowners. 46.1% of Latinos are homeowners. (Source: US Department of Commerce.)
- In Washington State, 65% of the population is homeowners. 42% of Latinos are homeowners. (Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census)



- Between 1995 and 1998, Latinos were denied more frequently than non-Hispanic whites, for conventional home loans. The denial rate was 29.2% for Latinos, compared to 12.5% for non-Hispanic whites. (Source: The Association of Community Organization for Reform Now)

### **Economy/Employment:**

- According to the Economic Census, there were 10,009 Latino-owned businesses in Washington State in 1997. (2.2% of all businesses in the state.) In the Seattle-Bellevue-Everett area there were 4,470 Latino-owned businesses (or 44.7% of all the Latino-owned businesses of the state). (Source: US Census Bureau, 1997 Economic Census)
- 4,358 of all Latino businesses (or 44%) are in service industries, followed by 1,821 (or 18%) in retail trades, and 1,307 (or 13%) in industries not in a specific classification. (Source: US Census Bureau, 1997 Economic Census)
- 48.8% of all Latino businesses (or 4,879), in Washington State, are owned by Mexicans, Mexican-Americans, or Chicanos. (Source: US Census Bureau, 1997 Economic Census)
- Nationwide, 6% of all businesses were owned by Latinos in 1997, employed 1,388,746 people, and contributed \$186.27 billion dollars to the Gross National Product. (Source: US Census Bureau, 1997 Economic Census)
- The median income for Latinas employed full-time, year-round, was \$20,052 (compared to \$29,369 for non-Hispanic white women), in 1999. (Source: US Census Bureau, US Department of Commerce, "Money Income in the United States: 1999")
- The median income for Latinos employed full-time, year round, was \$23,342 (compared to \$41,406 for non-Hispanic white men), in 1999. (Source: US Census Bureau, US Department of Commerce, "Money Income in the United States: 1999")
- In 1999, 22.8% of Latinos in the USA lived at the poverty level, compared to 7.7% of non-Hispanic whites. (8.3% lived below poverty level vs. 2.9%, and 31.3% lived at near-poverty level vs. 11.0% of non-Hispanic whites.) (Source: US Census Bureau, US Department of Commerce, "Money Income in the United States: 1999")
- In 1999, 30.3% of Latino children in the USA lived at poverty level, compared to 9.4% of non-Hispanic white children. 43.5% of Puerto Rican children were at poverty level, 35.4% of Mexican-heritage children, and 16.4% of Cuban-heritage children. (Source: US Census Bureau, US Department of Commerce, "Money Income in the United States: 1999")
- 28.1% of Latinos in the USA have employer-provided pension plans, compared to 46.7% of non-Hispanic whites and 41.67% of African Americans. And 40% of Latinos contribute financially to the care of their elders, compared to 27% of the rest of the population. (Source: American Association of Retired Persons, AARP Survey, July 2001)



- Nationally, the Latino on-the-job fatality rate is 5.2 deaths/100,000 workers. For non-Hispanic whites, the rate is 4.4 deaths/100,000 workers. (Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1999)
- 36.1% of Latino on-the-job fatalities are transportation related, 18.9% are contact with objects and equipment, and 16.3% are due to falls. (Causes: language barriers, English-only warnings, most dangerous jobs given to Latino workers, etc.) (Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1999)
- Between 1996 and 1999 there was a 68% increase of Latino on-the-job fatalities in the construction industry nationwide. (133 deaths in 1996, 223 deaths in 1999). (Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1999)

### **Education:**

- In October 2000, 106,274 Latino students were enrolled in Washington State public and private schools (grades K-12). That was 9.8% of the 1,087,497 total enrolled. (Source: Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction)
- Fall 2000, University of Washington had a Latino enrollment of 1,168 students (3.2%) of the 36,139 total student enrollment. The fall 1990 enrollment was 784 Latino students (2.3%) of the total student enrollment. (Source: University of Washington)
- Spring 2000, 617 Latinos were enrolled at Washington State University, out of a total student enrollment of 19,427 (3.2%). (Source: Washington State University)
- As of June 30 2001, there were 15,306 inmates in Washington State prisons. 11.9% of inmates are of Latino origin (1,821). 71.2% of inmates were non-Hispanic white (10,898). (Source: Washington State Department of Corrections, Quarterly Report, June 2001)
- In 1997-1998, 347 degrees were awarded to Latino students (3.8% of the 9,220 total degrees awarded) from University of Washington. 255 were Bachelor degrees (4% of 6,358); 60 Master's (2.8% of 2150); 12 Doctorate (2.6% of 458); and 20 Professional degrees (7.9% of 254). (Source: University of Washington)
- In 1999, Washington State University awarded 3,816 Bachelor Degrees, 115 to Latino students (3%); 645 Master Degrees, 30 to Latino students (4.7%); and 142 Doctorate Degrees, 5 to Latino students (3.5%). (Source: Washington State University)
- For the 2000-01 school year, 2% of full-time classroom teachers in Washington State (1,058 of 52,964) were Latino (49,442 or 93.35% were non-Hispanic white). And Latinos comprised 3.15% of all full-time school personnel in all classifications (3,650 of



115,728 compared to 105,321 who were non-Hispanic white).

(Source: Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction)

- In Washington State, results of the 2001 Iowa Test of Basic Skills showed that:
  - Latino 3<sup>rd</sup> graders were at the 30th percentile of the national average in reading (non-Hispanic white students were at 62) and at 40 in math (non-Hispanic white students were at 69).
  - Latino 6<sup>th</sup> graders were at the 28<sup>th</sup> percentile in reading (non-Hispanic white students were at 59), 34 in math (non-Hispanic white students at 60), and 33 in language (non-Hispanic white students at 58).
  - Latino 9<sup>th</sup> graders core scores were at the 33<sup>rd</sup> percentile (non-Hispanic white students were at the 61<sup>st</sup> percentile, with a 57 percentile overall). (Source: Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction)
  - Per 2000 statistics, 15.4% of Latinos in the USA (aged 25-29), have received a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 36.2% of non-Hispanic whites and 20.6% of African-Americans in the same age group. (Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey 2000)
- In 2000, 62.8% of 25-29 year-old Latinos had completed high school, compared to 94.0% of non-Hispanic whites. (US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey 2000)
- Nationally, the estimated dropout rate of Latino students (aged 16-24) was 28.6% in 1999, compared to 12.6% of African-American students, and 7.3% of non-Hispanic white students. (Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey 1999)
- Nationally, the estimated dropout rate of foreign-born Latino students (aged 16-24) was 44.2% in 1999, compared to 7.0% of non-Hispanic foreign-born students. (Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey 1999)
- In the USA in 1999, 44.2% of Latino children between the ages of 3 and 5 were enrolled in early childhood programs, compared to 73.2% of African-American children, and 60.0% of non-Hispanic white children. (Source: US Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. National Household Education Surveys Program and Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, "America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being", 2000)
- Per 1999 statistics, 30.6% of students enrolled in schools in the Western portion of the USA were Latino (compared to 52.7% non-Hispanic white students and 5.7% African-American students). In the South, 14.8% of students were Latino, 13.0% in the Northeast, and 5.9% in the Midwest. (Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, 1999)

### **Health Concerns:**

- According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, approximately 6% of adult Latinos are diagnosed with diabetes (double the rate of diabetes cases diagnosed in non-Hispanic



whites), but there are possibly another 6% who are undiagnosed but have diabetes. (Source: US Centers for Disease Control)

- About 1 in 4 Mexican-Americans are diagnosed with diabetes, 1 in 4 Puerto Ricans and 1 in 6 Cuban-Americans. Diagnosis is higher among the less educated, and those living in the West and Southwest. (Source: National Institute of Health.)
- Diabetes is one of the 5 leading causes of death among both Latino men and women in the United States. (Source: American Heart Association)
- As of December 31, 2000, there were 9,427 cases of AIDS in the State of Washington. 626 cases of AIDS were diagnosed in Latinos (or 7% of the cases in the state). 567 cases were male and 59 cases were female. There were 161 cases of HIV non-AIDS in Hispanics, out of a total of 2,082 cases in Washington State. (Source: Public Health of Seattle/King County & WA State Infectious Disease and Reproductive Health Assessment Unit)
- 11% (or 181) of all AIDS cases diagnosed in Washington State between 1997 and 2000 were Latinos. (Source: Washington State Department of Health/Infectious Disease and Reproductive Health Assessment Unit, September 2000)
- 22% of AIDS cases diagnosed in Eastern Washington between 1996-2000 were Latino. Latino men were 85% of that figure, while Latina women were 15%. (Compared to overall diagnosed cases of 91% men and 9% women.) (Source: Washington State Department of Health/Infectious Disease and Reproductive Health Assessment Unit, September 2000)
- There are more pregnancy-related deaths among Latina women (10.3 per 100,000) than among non-Hispanic white women (6 per 100,000). Puerto Rican women are most at risk among Latinas. (Source: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- White Latina women had the highest incidence rate of cervical cancer in the USA between the years of 1990 and 1996 at 16.7 per 100,000 women. Other Latina women had the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest incidence rate at 15.8 per 100,000 women. Non-Hispanic white women had a rate of 7.1 per 100,00 women. (National Cancer Institute. Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Cancer Statistics Review)
- In 1998, 60.5% of Latina women over the age of 40 had had a mammogram. 68.1% of non-Hispanic white women over the age of 40 had had a mammogram. 64% of Puerto Rican women had had a mammogram, 62% of Cuban-heritage women, and 59% of Mexican-heritage women. (Source: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey)

### **Health Insurance Statistics:**

- Per 1997 US Census statistics, 34.2% of Latinos had no health insurance coverage (compared to 12% of non-Hispanic whites). 40.8% of Latinos living at poverty level had no health insurance



coverage, compared to 29.0% of non-Hispanic whites. (Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1998)

- In 1998 only 43% of Latinos with health insurance were able to obtain coverage through their employers. (Compared to a 64% national average.) This was often due to the nature of employment (such as farming and service industries), where the employer did not offer health insurance coverage to employees. (Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1999)

**Media Information:**

- There are approximately 27 radio stations throughout the state of Washington, which broadcast entirely in Spanish, have scheduled programs in Spanish, or have scheduled programs of Latin music. (List compiled by: Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs)
- There are approximately 17 publications (newspapers and magazines) throughout the state of Washington, which are published in Spanish, published bilingually in Spanish and English, or publish sections of newspaper highlighting issues relevant to the Latino community. (List compiled by: Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs)



<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of State Latino Pop.</b>
Mexican	329,934	74.7%
Puerto Rican	16,140	3.7%
Cuban	4,501	1.0%
Salvadoran	3,987	0.9%
Guatemalan	2,773	0.6%
Colombian	2,189	0.5%
Peruvian	1,942	0.4%
Panamanian	1,725	0.4%
Honduran	1,330	0.3%
Chilean	1,229	0.3%
Argentinian	939	0.2%
Nicaraguan	871	0.2%
Costa Rican	818	0.2%
Dominican	661	0.2%
Ecuadorean	637	0.1%
Venezuelan	528	0.1%
Bolivian	347	0.1%
Uruguayan	111	0.03%
Paraguayan	46	0.01%
Other Latino & Spanish	69,692	15.8%
Other Central American	622	0.1%
Other South American	487	0.1%

#### **DEFINING RACE AND ETHNICITY**

(Per the US Census Bureau)

- There are four specific **race** categories used by the US Census Bureau: White, Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian/Pacific Islander.
- Hispanic/Latino is an **ethnicity** category.
- Race and ethnicity are separate and different.



(Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000)

#### **TOP TEN COUNTIES IN WASHINGTON STATE BY POPULATION OF LATINOS**

<b>RANK</b>	<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>POPULATION</b>
1	KING	95,242
2	YAKIMA	79,905
3	PIERCE	38,621
4	SNOHOMISH	28,590
5	FRANKLIN	23,032
6	GRANT	22,476
7	BENTON	17,806
8	CLARK	16,248
9	CHELAN	12,831
10	SPOKANE	11,561

#### **TOP TEN COUNTIES IN WASHINGTON BY PERCENTAGE OF LATINO POPULATION**

<b>RANK</b>	<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>TOTAL POP.</b>	<b>LATINO POP.</b>	<b>% LATINOS</b>
1	ADAMS	16,428	7,732	47.1
2	FRANKLIN	49,347	23,032	46.7
3	YAKIMA	222,581	79,905	35.9
4	GRANT	74,698	22,476	30.1
5	DOUGLAS	32,603	6,433	19.7
6	CHELAN	66,616	12,831	19.3
7	WALLA WALLA	55,180	8,654	15.7
8	OKANOGAN	39,564	5,688	14.4
9	BENTON	142,475	17,806	12.5
10	SKAGIT	102,979	11,536	11.2

#### **TOP TEN CITIES/TOWNS BY PERCENTAGE OF LATINO POPULATION**

<b>RANK</b>	<b>CITY/TOWN (COUNTY)</b>	<b>TOTAL POP.</b>	<b>LATINO POP.</b>	<b>%LATINOS</b>
1	MATTAWA (Grant)	2,609	2,343	89.8
2	MABTON (Yakima)	1,891	1,683	89.0
3	GRANGER (Yakima)	2,530	2,164	85.5
4	ROYAL CITY (Grant)	1,823	1,426	78.2
5	WAPATO (Yakima)	4,582	3,492	76.2
6	BASIN CITY (Franklin)	968	737	76.1
7	TOPPENISH (Yakima)	8,946	6,774	75.7
8	SUNNYSIDE (Yakima)	13,905	10,158	73.1
9	WARDEN (Grant)	2,544	1,827	71.8
10	GRANDVIEW (Yakima)	8,377	5,700	68.0

#### **RANKINGS BY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

<b>RANK</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>TOTAL POP.</b>	<b>LATINO POP.</b>	<b>% LATINOS</b>
1	4 <sup>TH</sup>	672,059	170,760	25.4



2	9 <sup>TH</sup>	649,451	46,912	7.2
3	2 <sup>ND</sup>	719,487	41,620	5.8
4	7 <sup>TH</sup>	590,062	32,993	5.6
5	6 <sup>TH</sup>	611,292	30,332	5.0
6	5 <sup>TH</sup>	625,971	30,961	4.9
7	3 <sup>RD</sup>	698,038	32,631	4.7
8	1 <sup>ST</sup>	632,484	26,558	4.2
9	8 <sup>TH</sup>	695,277	28,742	4.1

(Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000)